

In the early part of the season we beat Southwestern here by ten points, and down at Winfield by four points. Of course, Southwestern does not maintain the one-year residence eligibility rule and that allows them to play freshmen. That enables them to pick up a lot of good boys who would not be eligible in our conference, or in which A. & M. plays.

You certainly have a job on your hands and I will be very happy to help you in any way I can. I am giving you this in confidence. When the boys here sold Dr. Naismith on the idea they asked him to give a cup and he paid for it out of his own money. They sold him on the idea that Kansas would be eligible to enter the tournament, and he of course wanted the University to win his trophy. He was giving it as a memorial to his wife who passed away this past year. He was appreciative of the fine things that the people in general did for him when they raised some money for Mrs. Naismith and him to attend the Olympics, and he felt like he wanted to do something for the people by giving this trophy.

I will be very happy to talk to Dr. Naismith, who is a member of our faculty here in the Department of Physical Education. He is in my department. He is a grand old gentleman, and he would want to help. I feel that the people who sold him this idea foxed him a little bit. I had a long talk with him and he was very much disappointed when he found that many teams would not be eligible to play due to the conference ruling. I will ask Dr. Naismith about the cup. I think it would be a fine tribute to him.

I do not know whether you know it or not, but I called on Major Griffith, as well as confirmed it with St. John, members of the rules committee and the Basketball Coaches Association, and I sold them the idea of raising the money for Dr. Naismith. I thought he had it coming to him, but I stayed in the background because I wanted him to get the benefit, and I did not want to make it appear that I was trying to benefit someone in my department. He has been here since 1898.

I have written you as fully and as comprehensively as I could under the conditions, and if there is anything I could do to cooperate with you in the things you desire, it will be a pleasure.

You will pardon me for saying the things that I am about to say, but I know that there was some very underhanded work by certain propagandists who endeavored to prejudice my case with you a year or so ago. I have felt that you did not have the whole story, and at that time I did not care to try to make it appear that I was on the defensive. If you do not know what I mean I will tell you when I see you in Chicago.